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Wilmington Powerball Player Wins \$800,000

-Hillsborough Man Wins \$400,000 on his Birthday-
-Conover Man Wins Top Prize with "\$100,000 Gold Rush" Ticket-

RALEIGH-David Handley Jr. of **Wilmington** asked his son to buy him a Powerball ticket for the March 19 drawing, and to make sure to Power Play. His \$2 ticket turned out to be a winner, matching five white balls. The Power Play multiplier for the drawing was 4, raising the \$200,000 prize to \$800,000!

Handley says he will pay some bills with the winnings and perhaps remodel his house. When asked what he would do for fun, he replied, "Buy a soda." Handley's ticket was purchased at the Lowes Food on College Road in Wilmington.

Keith Chnupa's birthday turned out to be his lucky day. On March 15, the **Hillsborough** man bought a Powerball ticket for that night's drawing at the Kangaroo Express in Hillsborough. His ticket matched all five white balls. Like Handley, Chnupa had Power Played his ticket. The multiplier for the March 15 Powerball drawing was 2, which increased his \$200,000 prize to \$400,000.

Chnupa says he didn't even know he had won until he was cleaning his car three days later and ran across the ticket. He checked the numbers on the NCEL Web site and found out he had gotten a \$400,000 birthday present!

In addition to Handley's winning ticket, two other tickets in the March 19 Powerball drawing matched all five white balls. One ticket was sold at the Sundo Kwik Shop on Fayetteville Road in **Lumberton** and one was sold at Cruizers on Six Forks Road in **Raleigh**. Both are worth \$200,000 and have yet to be claimed.

Markus Ijames of **Conover** had never purchased a "\$100,000 Gold Rush" instant scratch-off ticket before, but when he found out that the store was out of "Big Ol' Bucks"—the game he usually plays—he decided to give "Gold Rush" a try. The \$5 ticket revealed a \$100,000 prize!

Ijames purchased his winning ticket at the E-Z Way Food Store on East D Street in **Newton**. He says he plans to pay bills and perhaps take a trip with some of the money.

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A total of 36,239 North Carolina Powerball players won prizes in the Wednesday, March 19, drawing, ranging from \$800,000 down to \$3 for a total payout in prizes worth \$1,505,571. The jackpot for the Saturday, March 22, drawing is \$20 million.

Tonight's "Carolina Cash 5" top prize is worth an estimated \$527,000! If one ticket matches the five balls, it would be the fourth highest top prize won on the game.

Since Monday, March 17, "Carolina Cash 5" players have won nearly \$170,000 and "Carolina Pick 3" players have won more than \$561,000 in prizes. The NCEL also has paid out more than \$7.5 million total in instant scratch-off ticket prizes since Monday.

Winners in the March 19 Powerball drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u>
David Handley Jr.	Wilmington	\$800,000	Lowes Food #198 2316 N. College Rd., Wilmington
Unknown		\$200,000	Sundo Kwik Shop 5111 Fayetteville Rd., Lumberton
Unknown		\$200,000	Cruizers #28 7220 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh

Winners in the March 15 Powerball drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u>
Keith Chnupa	Hillsborough	\$400,000	Kangaroo Express #818 2015 Old N.C. 86, Hillsborough
Trudy Milano	Garner	\$10,000	Food Lion #1279 75 Glen Rd., Garner
Howard Owen Jr.	Rural Hall	\$10,000	4 Brothers #206 7895 Broad St., Rural Hall

Instant scratch-off ticket top tier prize winners:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Game Played</u>
Markus Ijames	Conover	\$100,000	"\$100,000 Gold Rush"
Rodney Ferrell	Charlotte	\$50,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Robert Adams	Kinston	\$10,000	"Super Gold"
Prentiss Brown	Dallas	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
William Harris	Siler City	\$10,000	"Super Gold"
Shirley Harris	Apex	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
William Howard	Stedman	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Astor Batchelor Jr.	Rocky Mount	\$7,000	"Super 7s"
Jo Ann Wrench	Richlands	\$7,000	"Super 7s"
Racheal Alvarado	Sanford	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Gary Cutlip	Lexington	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Vincent Dunlap	Wadesboro	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
George Beatty	Raeford	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Eva Lindsay	Chapel Hill	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"

(more)

“Carolina Cash 5” Top Prize Winners Tally

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$50,000 to \$856,998	112

Powerball Winners Tally

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$1 Million - \$200,000	96
\$50,000 - \$10,000	564

(The Powerball numbers above are since May 31, 2006,
but do not include unclaimed prizes.)

100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and college scholarships for need-based individuals.